

When I got started in amateur radio, a minimum morse code proficiency of 13 wpm was required to obtain permanent HF amateur privileges, and 5 wpm was necessary for VHF/UHF privileges or for a one year non-renewable novice license. I don't believe it is unreasonable to maintain a 5 wpm requirement as a pre-requisite for amateur HF operation. Methods of learning morse, as well as general access to audio recording technology, have progressed to the point where it is easier than ever to learn the code. Since reasonable accommodations have always been available to those individuals who have handicaps that make it impossible to learn morse, I am opposed to the efforts by organizations such as NCI to eliminate even minimal morse proficiency as a pre-requisite to HF amateur operation.